

REMARKS

The Office Action dated February 25, 2004, included the following rejections, objections, and comments:

1. Claims 19, 30, and 41 were objected to for various informalities.
2. Claims 19-21, 23-25, 28-32, 34-36, 39-43, 45-47, and 50-57 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nigam in view of Sismondi and Mishima.
3. Claims 22, 26-27, 33, 37-38, 44, and 48-49 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claims, but it was indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response to these rejections, objections, and comments, and in view of the above Amendments, Applicant provides the following Remarks:

1. Objection To Claims 19, 30, and 41 For Informalities

Claims 19, 30, and 40 were objected to for containing certain informalities relating to the use of the term "a first substrate" and "said textile substrate". Claims 19, 30, and 41 have been cancelled. However, the limitations from those claims have been written into the pending dependent claims, and the informalities have been corrected in those dependent claims. Applicant has attempted to correct the informalities by referring only to "textile substrate" and "treated textile substrate". Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the amended dependent claims have included the appropriate corrections to overcome the objection.

2. Rejection of Claims 19, 30, and 41 Under 35 USC 103(a)

Claims 19-21, 23-25, 28-32, 34-36, 39-43, 45-47, and 50-57 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nigam in view of Sismondi and Mishima. However, Applicant has cancelled these claims. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection has become moot.

3. **Objection To Claims 22, 26-27, 33, 37-38, 44, and 48-49 and Indication of Allowability**

Claims 22, 26-27, 33, 37-38, 44, and 48-49 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claims. However, it was indicated that the claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant wishes to express its appreciation for the indication of allowability. Applicant has amended Claims 22, 26-27, 33, 37-38, 44, and 48-49 to include all of the limitations from the respective independent claims (there were no intervening claims). In addition to including the limitations from the respective independent claims, Applicant has amended the description of the ink from the unspecified charge terms of "ionic dye" to using the negatively charge related terms of "anionic colorant" (The opposite charge of the cationic charge on the textile substrate.). Support for this amendment can be found in the specification on page 4, lines 27-29 (See also page 5, lines 1-12). Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are now in a condition for allowance.